

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling scheduled pickup for Wednesday, March 3, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Orientation for newcomers today

The APG Community Information Forum, formerly APG Newcomer Orientation, will be held today, 1 to 3 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.

All military and civilian personnel, retirees and their family members are invited to attend. Over 55 representatives of support agencies/organizations will be present to discuss the latest and greatest information on their activities.

Give-a-ways will be available and door prizes awarded.

For more information, call Godofredo Posadas, Relocation Readiness Program manager, Army Community Service, 410-278-2453/7474.

Monthly RAB meeting tonight

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., tonight, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topics will include Performance-Based Contracting and updates on the J-Field and Canal Creek Study Areas.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

APG gears up for AER Campaign

The 2004 Army Emergency Relief campaign is scheduled to run from March 1 through May 15.

A kick-off-meeting will be held 11 a.m., March 2 at Garrison Headquarters, building 305 in the main conference room. All unit representatives for the AER campaign are to attend this meeting to receive the necessary instructions, forms, flyers, and posters required to make this a successful campaign.

The 2004 AER Campaign coordinator is Maj. Anissa M. McNeill and the assistant campaign coordinator is Sgt. 1st Class Lisa R. Flecha. They can be reached at 410-278-2104.

FWP holds training conference

To celebrate Women's History Month, the

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The APG Forum

Wilbert Davis Gospel Night honors Supreme Court decision



Lisa Lyons, left, and LaShawna Wright-Moore belt out two spirited selections during the 31st Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night at the Post Theater Feb. 22. Lyons is the wife of Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Lyons, the event's host and Wright-Moore, a performer from Oxon Hill, has performed at the annual celebrations since age 6.

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

"It's important that we don't forget our roots; it's important that we don't forget how far we've come; and it's important that we don't forget where we're going," said Brig. Gen. William M. Lenaers, commander, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and Chief of Ordnance.

On that note, Lenaers welcomed more than 800 guests and performers to the 31st Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Theater Feb. 22.

The show honored the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Brown vs. Board of Education ruling that effectively ended segregation in American schools.

Wilbert Davis, the show's creator, and retired Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, who decreed that Gospel Night be an annual celebration while chief of ordnance in 1992, were the guests of honor, along with performers from around the community.

They included the Aberdeen Proving Ground Gospel Service Choir; Aberdeen Middle School Gospel Choir; Refuge Temple Combined Choir; the Voices of Inspiration from Churchville; Sisters Singing With Anointed Voices; and soloists Lisa Lyons; LaShawna Wright Moore; and Missionary Beulah Shaw. In addition, listeners were treated to a Gospel Rap performance by DON-T Records' Don-T and SCRYBE.

Lenaers said the evening was memorable because Davis was "a great warrior for our country."

"He taught us ordnance Soldiers how important it is for us to get together like this," Lenaers said.

"The gospel music we will enjoy tonight is now also a part of America's heritage," he said. "Tonight, we celebrate Brown versus the Board of Education."

Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Lyons, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, was the master of ceremonies.

A play titled "As Long As Your Blood is Red," by Capt. Claudette Blake, also of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade, opened the show. It depicted how the decision to set the example for America's schools might have come about.

"The Browns' decision to send their daughter to an all-white

See GOSPEL, page 9

ECBC Black History Pot Luck mimics traditional gatherings

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Savory aromas and a friendly atmosphere welcomed dozens of Aberdeen Proving Ground employees who attended the annual Black History Pot Luck, held in the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Berger Laboratory Feb. 19.

Mansfield Spicer, ECBC acting team leader for the Industrial Base Planning Team and master of ceremonies, said the pot luck gatherings have been going on for eight years or so as a way of recognizing Black History Month.

"Food has always been a way of bringing people together," Spicer said.

In addition to enjoying a great meal, we try to have speakers who can share personal or unique experiences or advice related to black themes or issues, he added.

This year's speaker was Eric Sheppard, an associate for Booz-Allen and Hamilton and author of the book, "Ancestor's Call," which

details how he traced his family roots.

Diners gathered hands in a large circle as John McClain, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, said grace then all formed a line at the long, delicacy-laden tables.

Some of the more than 20 dishes on hand included fried, baked and barbecued chicken, fried fish, barbecued spare ribs, buffalo wings, collard greens, cabbage, green beans, corn on the cob, black eyed peas, lima beans, okra, potato salad, cole slaw, corn bread, yeast roles, sweet potato pies and other desserts and various beverages.

During the meal, Sheppard encouraged listeners to not allow the opportunity to learn more about themselves slip through their fingers.

"When the generation before us is gone, with them will go a wealth of knowledge," Sheppard said. "Not every small town maintained records and many that did were destroyed by fires or in floods," he said.

See HISTORY, page 8



With hands joined and heads bowed in prayer, Aberdeen Proving Ground employees and Soldiers say grace before enjoying their meal in the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Berger Laboratory cafeteria during the Black History Pot Luck Feb. 19.

Armor Survivability Kits turn workhorses into warriors



Courtesy of ARL

The first convoy of protected crews leave the U.S. Army Materiel Command HMMWV Service Center, in Balad, Iraq. The vehicles are supply vehicles for the 18th Military Police Brigade, outfitted with the new Expedient Armor Survivability Kits.

Karen Jolley Drewen
RDECOM

Soldiers in Iraq have an extra layer of protection thanks to work done at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"The goal is to transform a regular truck into a warrior truck," said Maj. Dan Rusin, leader of the Expedient Armor Survivability Kit Team at RDECOM's U.S. Army Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The team created armored steel plating that can be installed in the field on the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle.

"Think of it as body armor for a HMMWV," Rusin said.

Since October, the kits have been installed on scores of vehicles at the U.S. Army Materiel Command's HMMWV Service Center at Camp Anaconda, Iraq, a two-hour operation that even includes a tune-up and oil change.

The project began in August, when RDECOM's ARL created a prototype system to reinforce the Army's HMMWV, a light-weight tactical vehicle that is useful behind the lines.

However, as Rusin pointed out, "There is no 'behind the lines' in Iraq. That supply sergeant over there has to drive through that same bad neighborhood as the military police."

While the HMMWV family includes the M-1114 armored truck, there aren't enough to go around.

See KITS, page 10

Dealing with debt collection

Capt. Matthew Lund
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

While most Americans may never have the “pleasure” of dealing with a debt collector, some will. It is important to know there is a federal law that sets limits on debt collectors’ practices. The law does not make a legitimate debt go away, but it protects debtors from unfair treatment by debt collectors.

The law, known as the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, covers personal, family and household debts. Common examples include car loans, medical care debt, and charge accounts. The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act involves two parties: the debt collector and the debtor.

A debt collector is anyone, other than the creditor, or the creditor’s attorney, who regularly collects debts for others.

Under the FDCPA, a debt collector may contact a debtor in person, by mail, telephone or telegram. However, a debt collector may not contact a debtor at inconvenient times, such as before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m., unless the debtor agrees. A debt collector may not contact a debtor at their work, if the employer disapproves of the contact.

A debtor may stop a debt collector from contacting them by writing a certified mail, return receipt requested letter to the collection agency telling them to stop. Once the debt collector receives this letter, the debt collector may not contact the debtor again, except to say there will be no further contact, or that a lawsuit has been filed against the debtor.

If a debt collector is notified that the debtor has an attorney, the collector may not contact anyone but the attorney regarding the debt. Thus, the debtor’s commander may not be contacted by a collector who has received notice that the debtor has an attorney.

The collector is not allowed to tell anyone other than the debtor, or the debtor’s attorney that money is owed.

Within five days after a debtor is first contacted, the debt collector must send the debtor a written notice telling them the amount of money owed, the name of the creditor, and what to do if the debtor does not agree the money is owed. If a debtor sends a letter to the debt collector within 30 days of first being contacted, saying the money is not owed, the collector may not contact the debtor anymore. However, a debt collector may, at that point, begin collection activities against the debtor again if the

debtor is sent proof of the debt, such as a copy of the bill.

Debt collectors may not harass, or abuse debtors. For example, a collector may not:

- Use threats of violence, or harm to property or reputation,
- Use profane language,
- Telephone a debtor without identifying themselves,
- Repeatedly use the telephone to annoy,
- Make false, misleading, or deceptive statements, or
- Put anything on an envelope addressed to the debtor other than the debt collector’s address and name. A debt collector’s name cannot appear on an envelope if the name shows that the communication is about the collection of a debt.

If a debt collector breaks the law, a debtor has the right to sue in state or federal court within one year from the date the law was broken. Money damages, as well as court and attorney’s fees may be recovered.

In addition to the FDCPA, many states have their own debt collection laws.

Anyone eligible for legal assistance who needs more information on dealing with debt collection should call the Legal Assistance Office at 410-278-1583/1584.

USAF Detachment initiates new training course



Left, Airman Robert Jackson and Airman Basic Jeremy McCaughan, the first graduates from the new Basic Vehicle Body Repair Course, cut a piece of automotive glass in the vehicle body laboratory as part of the new curriculum, extensively modified by the Detachment Training Development Element’s Catherine Clark, chief, and Tech. Sgt. Timothy Oliver, Vehicle Body Repair Course superintendent.

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Mark Gengenbach
Detachment 1, 361st Training Squadron

Detachment 1 of the 361st Training Squadron, based at Aberdeen Proving Ground, entered a new era in training on Feb. 11 with the graduation of three students from a new Basic Vehicle Body Repair course.

The course teaches new Air Force airmen in vehicle body repair, painting techniques, welding, glass working, radiator repair and vehicle upholstery. Training is conducted in Cohen Hall.

The new 64-day training course is the product of extensive work by the Detachment Training Development Element, led by Catherine Clark, chief, and the Vehicle Body Repair Course superintendent, Tech. Sgt. Timothy Oliver.

Clark and Oliver revised virtually every lesson in the existing, Army-developed, joint-service course to bring it up to date and incorporate new training technology.

Students assisted the revision effort by identifying potential “problem” areas.

Development of the new curriculum was a long, exacting process, according to Clark.

“We started working on the new course in the spring of 2003, in close coordination with our counterparts at Sheppard Air Force Base,” she said.

“It’s a major change from the old course,”

Oliver agreed. “It’s much more in line with what our graduates will see in the field. Fortunately, our students were very helpful in identifying concerns. And, every member of my instructor staff contributed to the improvements.”

Maj. Steven Pratt, detachment commander, lauded the efforts of Clark and Oliver.

“The new course is a tremendous improvement which will pay dividends throughout the Air Force. Mrs. Clark, Tech. Sgt. Oliver, and our instructors put a tremendous amount of effort into it, and the results are showing already.”

The new course has also earned accreditation by the Community College of the Air Force.

“Under CCAF guidelines, every graduate of this entry-level course will earn approximately 20 credit hours toward an associate degree in Vehicle Maintenance - credits that put them more than one-third of the way toward that critical achievement,” Clark said.

With this implementation, each of the seven USAF courses taught by Detachment 1 earns graduates college credit. In addition, the Vehicle Body course earns graduates credit toward certification under the civilian, industry-standard, Automotive Service Excellence program.

More than 45 young Airmen—active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve—are expected to complete the course in fiscal year 2004.

Updating DEERS information

TRICARE

It is important that DEERS records get updated when personal eligibility information changes. This includes changes in military career status, addresses, and family status (marriage, divorce, birth, and adoption) etc.

For basic information on eligibility, and Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions.

Beneficiaries may update their DEERS address, telephone number, and e-mail in several ways:

- Visit the DEERS Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/address/index.jsp> - This is the quick and easy way to update your information. The best time to update is during non-peak hours.
- Visit a local personnel office that has a uniformed services ID card facility. To locate the nearest ID card facility, visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/. Call ahead for hours of operation and for instructions if updating a record for someone who is housebound.
- Fax address changes to 1-831-655-8317.
- Call the DSO Telephone Center at 1-800-

538-9552 or for the Deaf (TTY/TDD): 1-866-363-2883. Hours of Operation are Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Pacific time), except federal holidays.

- Mail the changed information to the DSO, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

Updating Information other than Addresses - Beneficiaries will need to provide important pieces of documentation, such as marriage, birth, or death certificates; DD 214s; DD 1172s; etc. Beneficiaries should contact the nearest military ID card facility to find out what documents they need to enroll or update eligibility information in DEERS.

Once beneficiaries have the necessary documents, they can present them at the ID card facility or send a letter or fax to the DSO at the address and number noted above.

Note: Effective Oct. 1, 2003, URFSs will be listed in DEERS under their own Social Security numbers, not their sponsors’ SSNs. For more information, go to the Unremarried Former Spouse FAQs.

EXHIBIT GETS VIP LOOK



Exhibit gets VIP look

Photo by LA’MONT HARBISON

Lt. Gen. Richard A. Hack, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, qualifies on the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command marksmanship proficiency trainer during a review of the AMC exhibit at Aberdeen Proving Ground Feb. 20. The exhibit was designed and produced by the Directorate of Information Management Visual Information Services Division for the Association of the United States Army Winter Symposium, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., March 3 through 5.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@usag.apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

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Community Notes

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 28
VFW 8185 BASKET
BINGO**

VFW Post 8185 Men's Auxiliary, Route 222, Port Deposit, will hold Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards. Food, baked goods and beverages will be available. Door prizes and raffles also will be held. No smoking is permitted. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson at 410-378-3338 or Brenda Conjour at 410-273-7332.

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 29
AFRICAN-AMERICAN
MONTH CELEBRATION**

An African-American Month celebration will be held at St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace at 2 pm. There will be food, entertainment and information. This event is sponsored by the Christian Religious Education Department. For more information, call 410-939-2267.

**MONDAY
MARCH 1
TOASTMASTERS MEET-
ING ANNOUNCED**

Gunpowder Toastmasters 2562 will meet 11:40 a.m. at the Gunpowder Club located in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Men and women who are interested in improving their communication, leadership and listening skills are welcome to attend. For more information or reservations, call 410-941-1120 or 410-734-6573.

**FRIDAY
MARCH 5
COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County

Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing the first Friday of the month at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing is held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Cost of admission is \$8. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

**SATURDAY
MARCH 6
SOUL FOOD DINNERS**

The women of St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will sell Soul Food dinners 11:30 a.m. until all dinners are sold. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 8 and under. The proceeds will benefit the Church's Annual Woman's Day program scheduled for March 28.

To place orders, call 410-939-2267.

**TUESDAY
MARCH 16
IRISH SPECIALTY MEAL**

The Irish Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4503 and 4219 and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m. During this event all military personnel, family members, department of defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.30 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, department of defense civilian, retiree and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$2.85 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The Irish Specialty Meal menu includes potato and

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50, building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard. To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.



TORQUE

Friday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m.

Starring: Ice Cube, Jay Hernandez

Biker Cary Ford (Martin Henderson) is framed by an old rival and biker gang leader for the murder of another gang member who happens to be the brother of Trey (Ice Cube), leader of the most feared biker gang in the country. Ford is now on the run trying to clear his name from the murder with Trey and his gang looking for his blood. (Rated PG-13)

**ALONG CAME POLLY (FREE
ADMISSION)**

Saturday, Feb. 28, 7 p.m.

Starring: Ben Stiller, Jennifer Aniston



Reuben's (Stiller) best-laid plans for life and love career wildly off track when his bride dumps him on their honeymoon. Stunned and humiliated, Reuben plans to play it safer than ever. But an encounter with a childhood friend named Polly (Aniston) shoots him into a whirlwind of living in the moment activities. (Rated PG-13)



BIG FISH

Saturday, Feb. 28 9 p.m.

Starring: Ewan McGregor, Albert Finney

The story revolves around Ed Bloom (Finney) and his son Will (Billy Crudup), who is trying to learn more about his dad by piecing together the stories he has gathered over the years. The son winds up re-creating his father's elusive life in a series of legends and myths inspired by the few facts he knows. Through these tales, the son begins to understand his father's great feats and his great failings. (Rated PG-13)

leek soup, New England boiled dinner, Sheppards pie, Irish chicken and dumplings, fish and chips, whiskey baked ham, grilled Reuben sandwiches, dill buttered potatoes, macaroni and cheese, simmered brussels sprouts, seasoned carrots, brown gravy, assorted salad bar, cole slaw with creamy dressing, pickled beet and onion salad, Irish soda bread, assorted

bread, carrot cake, oatmeal cookies, chocolate eclairs, fresh fruit, soft serve yogurt with assorted toppings, assorted condiments and assorted beverages.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.


For more information, call Edward Parylo or Ernest Green at 410-306-1393/1398.

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03 Buick Rendezvous \$19,395 Z908 AWD, 7 pass., CD, 4 airbags	01 Buick LeSabre Ltd. \$15,495 Z897A 1 owner, leather, 4 airbags	01 GMC Denali XL \$33,995 S2001 DVD, OnStar, 1 owner, AWD

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From front page
Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Women's Program is holding its 'free' annual Training Conference 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., March 3, in the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4810. Registration starts at 7 a.m.

To register for classes visit <http://www.apg.army.mil/garrison/FWP/FWP.htm>. The cutoff date for registration is Feb. 27. For more information, call Sheryl Coleman at 410-306-0713 or Charlotte Albro at 410-436-4611.

Teen dating, violence seminar

Army Community Service will present Facts About Teen Dating Violence: Love Shouldn't Hurt, 6 to 8 p.m.,

tonight, at the Edgewood Area ACS, building E-4630. This presentation is for teens, ages 13 through 18. Topics include discussing rape drugs, how to help a friend, safety while dating, and how to report violence.

For more information or to sign up, call Sandy Hernandez-McCullough at 410-278-2435.

Reserve Capa Field now

The Civilian Welfare Fund will begin taking reservations for CAPA Field, for personal use 9:30 a.m., March 1, in the Civilian Welfare Fund Office, in building 2752, upstairs in room 201. Reservations will be accepted from people in line first, then phone calls will be received. The fee is \$200 per day.

For more information, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

APG holds Town Hall Meeting March 10

The next quarterly Town Hall Meeting will be held at the RDECOM Conference Center, building E-4810, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Retention team to visit APG

A Department of the Army Mobile Retention Training Team will visit APG, March 8 through 12 to conduct retention training in building 3147, Room 207, Raritan Avenue, Aberdeen Area for all primary and alternate unit level reenlistment noncommissioned officers.

Senior NCOs from the U.S. Army Soldier Support Institute

Retention Schoolhouse will conduct training from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

Uniform is BDUs. This training, available once per year, is provided at no cost to the units. Units desiring to send Soldiers to this training must contact Master Sgt. Arthur Burd, Post Retention, 410-278-2769, to confirm attendance and verify training seat availability for their reenlistment NCOs not later than March 5. Post Retention will provide all training materials students are required to possess.

At 10:25 a.m., March 12, there will be an Army Retention Program presentation prior to graduation that all leaders are encouraged to attend.

MCSC holds Women's Conference

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will sponsor a Women's Conference, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 17, at the Gunpowder Club in Edgewood Area of APG.

The Women's Conference is a series of workshops designed to uplift, enlighten, motivate and strengthen women in their various roles as women, mothers, wives, and invaluable contributors to their workplace and local communities.

The Conference is for all women, including military wives and female Soldiers, women who work or live at APG or in the surrounding communities.

Membership in the APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is not required. Cost is

\$10 per person; registration is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline for registration is April 2.

No children are allowed (including infants) and no childcare will be available. Participants may not register the day of the conference.

Registration forms will be available March 1, at the APG Thrift Shop, Army Community Service, building 2754, or visit www.apgmcs.org.

APG Occupational Health Clinic offering limited services

There will be no clinical or nursing staff available in the Aberdeen Area Occupational Health Clinic the week of March 15.

Patients with injuries are requested to go to the nearest emergency room. Those with minor/chronic illnesses are requested to see either their civilian or military provider of choice.

Only scheduling services will be addressed through the OHC in the Aberdeen Area during this staff shortage.

The OHC in the Edgewood area is not affected and will continue to provide normal services. For more information, call 410-278-19213.

Common Access Card software gets upgrade

The Military and Civilian ID Card facilities, which are located in buildings 4305, and E-4420, will be unable to issue Common Access cards, Military Retiree ID cards or Military Family Member ID cards on March 2 and 3 due to a software upgrade.

The Defense Manpower Data Center will upgrade all RAPIDS workstations with the Microsoft Windows Version 2000 Operating System Software.

Arrangements should be made to visit these facilities prior to or upon completion of the upgrade. This software installation does not affect the issuance of security badges or the DA Form 1602 (Department of the Army Civilian Identification) ID cards issued to contractor personnel.

For more information, call Robert Mehlbaum, 410-306-2327 for Military ID Cards, and Walter Henry, 410-306-2380 for Civilian ID Cards.

Change in accountable mail procedure at AA Post Office

As of Feb. 17, the APG Post Office in building 2201, is no longer accepting outgoing accountable mail (registered, certified, insured, etc.) in the back area of the Post Office before 12 p.m.

This is due in part to the fact that the clerks are still sometimes in the middle of processing the incoming accountable mail for delivery.

Customers may go to the front in the Post Office to have their outgoing accountable mail processed by the retail clerk.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding this matter, contact the APG Postmaster, Al Van Kleeck at 410-278-7967.

Correction

In last week's APG News, Lynn McNamara was incorrectly identified as the wife of Tim McNamara. She is the wife of Brig. Gen. Keith McNamara, commander of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

APG News regrets the error.

Fact of the week

Instead of buying sandwich bags and brown paper bags for lunches, pack lunches in reusable containers and reusable bags.

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MWR Morale, Welfare & Recreation

MWR hosts 'SUPER-STARS OF WRESTLING'

International Championship Wrestling presents Superstars of Wrestling, 7 p.m., March 20, at the APG Athletic Center, building 3300. Events include Shawn Alexander vs. Todd Johnson; George South Jr. vs. Jason King; a Tag Team Match, The Executions 1&2 vs. Mike Lee and Joey Sylvia; a Ladies Match with Persephone vs. Special "K"; Former WWE Hardcore Champion Viscera vs. Former WCW Tag Team Champion The Barbarian; and the main event, Former WCW Television Champion Disco Inferno vs. Former WCW Hardcore Champion Norman Smiley. Card is subject to change.

Tickets cost \$10 for bleachers, \$12 for floor seats and \$20 for ringside seats; free admission for children 5 and under. An autograph/photograph session will be held 6 to 7 p.m., March 20.

Tickets are available at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907 or 410-278-4011 or order online at www.apgmwr.com.

Join the boat club

Spesutie Island Boating Activity is located in the Aberdeen Area of APG, building 36. Mooring spaces cost \$11 per foot, parking lot space costs \$8 foot, and Ramp only membership costs \$7.50 per foot per boating season, March until November 2004.

Amenities include an easy access ramp and a clubhouse with screened porch with a kitchen, two bathrooms and a meeting/party room. There is also a picnic area for family and social gatherings.

Membership requirements: Member must be the boat owner and must complete eight hours of work and stand three security watches, 7 to 10

p.m. There is no fee to be a member; all fees are associated with the storage and services.

Membership is open to active duty military, retired military, full time Army National Guard, DOD civilians, retired DOD civilians, and contractors with APG ID cards.

Proof of insurance is also a requirement.

Applications can be picked up at the clubhouse building 36 and at the Outdoor Recreation Office. For information or questions call Wayne Doyel, 410-278-4124 or the Outdoor Recreation Office, 410-278-4124.

Activities

MWR has a very exciting and entertaining year planned for APG.

Some things to look for include ICW Wrestling event on March 20, Miller Lite Army

Concert Tour presenting Montgomery Gentry on July 17, and lots more.

To learn more, visit <http://www.apgmwr.com> for the latest information.

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting the MWR Registration, building 3326, or online at www.apgmwr.com.

March Madness Racquetball, Handball Tournament

This tournament will be held 7 p.m., March 26 through 28, at the APG Athletic Center. This will be a single-elimination divisional tournament. Participants must register by level of ability. All participants receive an official March Madness Tournament T-shirt. Trophies will be given for first and second place finishers in

each division.

Bowling specials

Get a Play & Save Pass from the APG Bowling Center. Pay \$37 for 20 games to receive a 20 percent discount. Games must be played Monday thru Friday.

An E1-E4 Special runs March 1 through 7. Bowl for \$1 a game and get \$.50 shoe rental. Play anytime from 1 p.m. to closing.

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The following resources are available at the APG CYS School Liaison/Youth Education Office, room 200, building 2752:

Parent Guidebook to the U.S. Army Secondary Education Transition Study; Preparing Your Children and Staying Involved In Their Education During Deployment; Checklist for Student Transfers (see also Web site www.militarychild.org); How Do I Pay For College? A Guide To Financial Aid (see also Web site www.hcps.org); 2003/2004 The You Can Guide to Financing Your Education.

READ TO CHILDREN—OPEN YOUNG MINDS

In appreciation to all the APG military and civilian volunteers who give of their time to read to children at school and at child care and youth centers, here are some useful reading tips:

Tip # 1, How To Read To Children Of All Ages: Select books that reflect a child's own experiences, such as books about daily life, family members or animals. Expose children to books they can touch. Encourage children to choose the book(s) you read. Read books that have rhyme, rhythm, or repetition, because the sound of language is especially important to infants who cannot yet focus on pictures. Use different voices for different characters or emotions. Ask questions about pictures or characters in the book. Have children describe what they see. Have children tell you what they think will happen next in the story.

Tip # 2, Benefits of Reading Aloud: This creates a bond between the child and the reader; improves listening comprehension; expands the child's attention span; builds vocabulary; exposes the child to good grammar; broadens the child's experiences and information; stimulates the imagination; promotes critical thinking skills; often teaches values and builds confidence.

Tip # 3, What Parents and Caregivers Can Do: Keep good books, magazines, and newspapers in the house; make reading part of the daily routine; read to and with children each day for at least 20 to 30 minutes; discuss each book that read together; talk with children during mealtimes and throughout the day; tell children stories; let children draw or paint; limit television viewing and monitor what the child watches; explore the local library with children; show children that reading is a fun, lifelong activity; find out about summer programs in the community. (See Maryland State Department of Education, Web site www.msde.state.md.us).

ATTENTION APG MILITARY, CIVILIAN PARENTS WITH CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12

The Military Child Education Coalition's Web site is a resource to use anywhere in the world: www.militarychild.org. It's all about children's education.

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Sports

Edgewood Area wins All Star Tournament over the Aberdeen Area, 63-54

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Edgewood Area All Stars overcame a first-round loss to win the intramural basketball All Star Tournament, a three-day event held in both the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas Feb. 17 through 19.

The Edgewood Division All Stars triumphed over the Aberdeen Area's American Division 63-54.

Team leaders had to step up for the final game as both were minus their coaches due to training commitments.

“Our coaches couldn’t make it tonight so we just had to talk to each other,” said David Brown, from the AA’s Company C, 16th Ordnance Battalion. “We played well for not being teammates.”

Curtis Fearson, an Army reservist from the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, who scored a game high 34 points for the EA, said the team concentrated on sealing the defense.

“They couldn’t really break the zone on us,” Fearson said. “You could tell we were the tougher division. We’ve got the bragging rights now.”

All Star results

Feb. 17
American Division, 54; Edgewood Division, 50

Feb. 18
National Division, 64; American Division, 56

Feb. 19
Edgewood Division, 63; American Division, 54

High scorers

Feb. 17
American Division
Neil Eloise, TF 121st, 15
Donald Thompson, HHC 61st, 10
Doryon Peacock, 203rd MI, 10
Edgewood Division
Brown, HHC 143rd, 15
Hawkins, HHC 143rd, 15

Feb. 18
National Division
Brown, Company C 16th, 20
Wendell Jackson, USAF, 13
Ronald Seldon, Company E 16th, 12
American Division
Donald Thompson, HHC 61st, 20
Jackson Shaw, NCOA, 12



Edgewood All Stars' Jeff Ralls pulls away with an offensive rebound during the second half of the intramural basketball All Star championship game versus the Aberdeen All Stars Feb. 19.

History

From front page

He stressed the importance of gleaning whatever information was possible from elderly relatives or friends and taking it from there.

“Even if you don’t have the energy right now, at least save the information. Maybe some of your other relatives will want to look into it someday,” Sheppard said. “I am hoping that you are prepared to move forward, not only for your ancestors, but for generations to come.”

Spicer thanked the organizers Kim Walton, Greg Allen, Dave Smylie, Pam Lamb and Becky Stump and Laticia Miles, an Edgewood artist who donated the artwork that adorned each table and appeared on easels around the room.

Genealogy 101: How do I get started?

Eric Sheppard, an Edgewood Chemical Biological Center employee, is co-founder of the not-profit organization, Slave Descendants Freedom Society, Inc.

Having successfully re-traced his family roots, Sheppard now offers free workshops on how to get started. The workshops provide information on Internet genealogy resources, accessing archives, court records and legal resources and other helpful tips.

All workshops will be held 1 to 3 p.m. at Howard Community College (Instructional Lab building), 10901 Little Patuxent, Columbia, Md.

To register for the March 21, April 17 or May 15 class or for more information, call 410-796-3165 or e-mail info@slavedescendants.org; or visit Web site, www.slavedescendants.org.

The APG Forum

Commentary: You are judged by what makes you angry



Chap. (Maj.) William Holt Liptrot Jr.
USAGAPG

Anger is natural. It is simply a part of being human. Anger is as much a part of our human nature as becoming tired, frustrated, or happy, and even getting hungry. But, we have to make a distinction between anger that is out of control and anger that is healthy.

I would like to give a few examples of destructive anger. Let us call the first example the blazing kind of anger. This type represents an individual who lets his anger explode. This person goes all to pieces about whatever he or she feels is dumped on them or anyone else nearby. Unfortunately, some individuals let their blazing anger fall on everyone in their path. The second type of anger is the blistering kind. This type of anger is directed by a bit of sarcasm. Comedians typically exemplify this type of anger. People who express this type of anger are not as direct as the blazing kind, but in a sarcastic manner, they cut, dig, and try to hurt the person at whom they are venting their feelings. Another type of anger is the brooding kind. These individuals may carry inside of them a great deal of anger about what is happening at work, home, or some other place. These persons want to appear as "Mr. Good Guy" and not make waves. They are, unfortunately, unable to ventilate their true feelings. Therefore, they brood on those angry

feelings and let them fester. Psychologists refer to this as "passive-aggressive behavior." When given the opportunity to attack, they will with fury, and destroy everyone in their area of operation. Many carry throughout their lives a "slush fund" of anger that is brooding in their unconscious. Another type of anger is the bullying kind. Individuals who express this type of anger try to dominate those around them with anger. They cannot change someone else with intellect so they try and do it with anger. Some anger is normal. Let me offer a few suggestions on how to avoid letting your anger becoming sinful. The first thing that I would suggest is not to let your emotions control you. Instead, you control them. Don't be mastered by emotions but master them. This is a difficult skill to acquire. The first step in dealing with anger is not to let your emotions control you completely. Second, I am convinced that uncontrolled anger is a sign of imma-

turity. Sometimes, the most immature thing that a person can do is to give in immediately to feelings of anger and respond in a hostile way. To be unwilling to forgive others is to say, in essence, that you really do not accept the grace of God. Jesus told the disciples that they were to pray, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." In our scriptures, Matthew tells us that Jesus said, "if you are bringing your gift to the altar and you suddenly remember that your brother has a grievance against you, leave your gift where it is before the altar. First go and make your peace with your brother, then go back and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24 New English Bible). Hanging onto grudges, hurts, and mistakes from the past and being unwilling to forgive and forget is destructive and ungodly. Not to be angry sometimes or even in certain situations is a sin. Religious history rings with those who cared enough to be angry at the right time. Moses was angry at the enslave-

ment of the children of Israel in Egypt. John the Baptist was angry at the distortion of religion by Jewish leaders. John Wesley was angry at the practices of religion in his era. Martin Luther King Jr. was angry at the Jim Crow laws. Kirk Franklin was angry at the stifling of Gospel music. There are times when anger needs to be directed toward particular situations or problems in order to find a solution. Anger needs to be directed in a positive way. What makes you angry? There should be some things that do. But on other occasions, you need to keep your anger under control. You are measured by what makes you angry. (Editor's note: Chap. (Maj.) William Holt Liptrot Jr. is departing APG for Fort Belvoir, Va. His farewell is Feb. 29, 11:30 a.m. at the Aberdeen Area Chapel. He will deliver his final sermon March 7, 10:15 a.m. during the AA Chapel Protestant service.



Choir director Regina Mack, left, leads the APG Gospel Service Choir in the song, "It's Marvelous." From left, APG's own Sgt. 1st Class Donald Thompson, Don-T and SCRYBE, give listeners the latest in Gospel Rap with two original songs.



A military figurine and Buffalo Soldier photographs were part of a Black History collection belonging to Salina Pleasant-Grice, on display in the Post Theater lobby during the Wilbert Davis Gospel Night concert.



The Aberdeen Middle School Gospel Choir, led by Lisa Lyons and S. Jonathan Smith, offers the first musical selection of the evening. Left, Evangelist Beulah Shaw takes listeners back in time with the classic hymn, "His Eye is On the Sparrow."



The audience responds to the sounds of musical praise with spirit-filled joy during Wilbert Davis Gospel Night at the Post Theater, Feb. 22

Gospel

From front page

school had a national impact," Blake said. "I wanted to show how it might have affected those personally involved." The show starred Sgt. DeAngelo Coatie as John Brown; Drill Sergeant Vivian Jackson as Vivian Brown; Khadijah Blake as little Linda Brown; Carol Keegan as her playmate, Sue; Martina Carr as Liz, Sue's mother, and Maj. LouAnne Maddox as Miss Pear. After the play, the singing began in earnest with each group offering a range of selections from down home spirituals to today's modern gospel sound. Very warmly received was a performance by APG's own Sgt. 1st Class Donald Thompson, HHC, 61st Ordnance Brigade. Thompson, who goes by the name of Don-T, is the owner of DON-T Records, a production company that "preaches the word of God through hip-hop." He and his partner, Marcus Isler Sr., who goes by the name of SCRYBE, put on an energetic religious rap performance of two original songs that had the audience on its feet, clapping and singing along. Thompson said his music tries to communicate with youths on their level. "I try to send the message that you can't have it both ways. We're all about bringing them to Christ," Thompson said.

Also a first time performer at Gospel Night, Missionary Beulah Shaw wowed the audience with the song, "There Is A War Going On," from her recently released CD, "God Did This," which she introduced during a signing at the Post Exchange in December. She said she also performs a Christian comedy act as a character named Mama Mae. "Making folks laugh and saving souls is my goal," Shaw said. "I truly believe everyone can make a difference, one smile at a time." During the intermission attendees took in the displays set up in the lobby that included a private collection from Salina Pleasant-Grice, a Black History instructor with the Harford County Board of Education. Using figurines, photographs, and books, Pleasant-Grice told the story of such famous African-Americans as Frederick Douglass, Harriett Tubman, Alex Haley, Michael Jordan, Queen Latifah and Sugar Ray Leonard. At the show's end, Lenaers and OC&S Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony T. Aubain presented Lyons with an OC&S volunteer award for his three years of hosting the Gospel Night as well as for his leadership in coaching youth soccer and for establishing a food distribution center in the Aberdeen community. Wilson, in closing, asked all to pray for Soldiers serving in the war on terrorism, commenting that he had the pleasure of visiting wounded Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. "None of them had a negative comment to pass on to me," Wilson said. "Instead they expressed concern about their broth-


er Soldiers whether white, black, Hispanic or other." "This tells me that we are a part of the greatest institution in the world," he said, adding that the attitude toward tolerance in diversity is a result of the Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. "As we observe this anniversary, we can't afford to give up," Wilson said. "The journey continues." **Kudos given** The OC&S presented the awards for its Black History Essay and Display competition. The winners were: Essay winner, Sgt. 1st Class Teresa Turner, 61st Ordnance Battalion Essay runner-up, Stacie Turner, daughter of 16th Ordnance Battalion drill sergeant, Staff Sgt. Janice Farmer and an 8th grade student at Aberdeen Middle School Display winner, Sgt. 1st Class Albaro Gonzalez, small group leader, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Class 04-04 Display runner up, Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance Center Library The OC&S thanked the following participants and organizers for the 31st Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night: Regina Mack, APG Gospel Choir Jonathan Smith, Aberdeen Middle School Gospel Choir Debora Caldwell, Refuge Temple Combined Choir Carla Harris, Sisters Singing With Anointed Voices Salina Pleasant-Grice, Black History display OC&S Equal Opportunity Advisors



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Photos courtesy ARL

Dale Smith, left, and Grat Blackburn, U.S. Army Research Laboratory contract employees with Dynamic Science, drill holes in the aluminum HMMWV material for bolting and reinforcing for the armored steel blast plates of the Armored Survivability Kit.



Close-up of the side view of the production model of the expedient Armor Survivability Kit, mounted on a four-door HMMWV. The kit comes in two-door or four-door versions.



Kits

From front page

The Expedient Armor Survivability Kit arrives in Iraq in a heavy wooden crate containing the components to transform a typical HMMWV into an imposing-looking vehicle that can go into the bad parts of town.

The ARL team rushed 39 crates containing the first kits to Iraq in October, along with a team to install them.

Meanwhile, RDECOM's U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center in Warren, Mich., further refined the design and produced 100 addi-

tional kits by the end of November.

Now, the Army Depot System has the mission to produce thousands of kits in upcoming months.

The goal was to counter the threat HMMWV crews face in Iraq--improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, which often come from the side of the road. That led to the new doors, plus additional armor beneath the doors and a plate on the back.

"We tried an assortment of products - aluminum, composites, a lot of fancy stuff. But we came back to the same armored steel that you make tanks from," Rusin said.

One two-door kit weighs in at 900 pounds, a four-door at 1,300 pounds. The team at

APG loaded test vehicles with steel plates to see how they handled the additional weight. Then they used their own versions of IEDs to test the effectiveness.

The work at APG began on a hot day in August, in a cavernous warehouse filled with equipment. Rusin, ARL employee Chet Benjamin, and Grat Blackburn, Kenny Dudeck and Dale Smith, ARL contract employees with Dynamic Science, discussed numerous ideas, choosing the best for testing.

"It was gratifying to come up with an idea on Monday morning at 7 a.m., build it that afternoon, have it installed by the following morning, and blow it up," Rusin said. "It's all about using the right level of technology for the right reasons. It's better to ship a solution now and get it out there to protect Soldiers, rather than working on it until its perfect."

By the end, more than 80 people were involved, from the testers who quickly helped determine the best solution, to the carpenters who built the sturdy crates for shipping, to the transportation personnel who ensured that every kit arrived at Camp Anaconda, just three days from when they left Maryland.

The result is an impressive-looking door with a thick plexiglass window, known in the industry as "transparent armor."

"This not only provides more protection, but it also looks sturdier," Rusin added. "That may help protect them as well."

Dudeck said this is the first time he has seen a product he's worked on have immediate application in the field.

Soldiers at Camp Anaconda expressed their gratitude for the vehicles, sending messages and photographs back to the team.

"We got photos of the vehicles with the new doors, and when you see the name of that Soldier on the windshield, it really means a lot to you," he said.

The team's typical projects run eight months to a year. This project was in the hands of Soldiers in two months, which Blackburn added was unprecedented in his career.

"It's the first time I've been able to see a product start to finish," Blackburn said. "To field this kind of kit, and then talk to the people who received it, makes it kind of personal."

Meanwhile, the team is back to work, designing other items that will help protect Soldiers deployed overseas.

"This is the best job in the Army. I've waited 16 years for this job," Rusin said. "This kit increases the confidence of the crews, and supplies extra protection. Everybody seems to love it. And nobody's asked for their old door back."

The team is busy preparing another shipment of extra supplies and parts for shipment to Iraq.



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EYV&R_U2^ 8E' Cj|W&EV?ZX&e
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2j|f^ Zf^ ARZ_d&UHYWj d&Z
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EYV&R_UA&Z 8EA:d&Vc&V'h Vc
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COMING SOON – THE PONTIAC GTO • NEW FOR 2004 – THE GMC ENVOY XUV

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